

# COMMUNITY NEWS



New Brockton High School seniors paid a visit to Enterprise-Ozark Community College recently where they learned all about being admitted to college, registering for classes, applying for financial aid, selecting a major, attending classes, and joining college clubs and organizations. The EOCC Mentors, the College's official hosts, assisted students with questions and decisions and took the seniors on a tour of the Enterprise Campus.

## Regional peanut production meetings underway

The 2008 Alabama Regional Peanut production meetings, which began Jan. 11, will continue with five more meetings scheduled throughout the state's peanut-producing areas.

Upcoming meetings include:

Feb. 11, 6 p.m. in Robertsdale;

Feb. 12, 10 a.m. in Monroeville; Feb. 25, 6 p.m. in the New Brockton Family Center Community Room, Feb. 26, 6 p.m., in the Harrison Room of the Troy University campus in Dothan; and Feb. 28, 6 p.m., at the Pike County Economic

Development Office on Highway 231 in Troy. A meal will be served at each of the meetings.

The meetings offer preplanning tips and overviews of current issues related to the peanut industry, including production practices, variety recommendations and marketing update.

Scheduled speakers include: Randy Griggs of the Alabama Peanut Producers Association on the farm bill and industry issues; Marshall Lamb and Wilson Faircloth of the National Peanut Research Laboratory on marketing and economics; and Kris Balkcom, Austin Hagan and Ron Weeks of Auburn University's Wiregrass Research and Extension Center on production updates and issues.

For more information about the production meetings, contact your nearest county

Extension system.

Alabama peanut producers will also be gathering at the National Peanut Festival

Fairgrounds in Dothan on Thursday, Feb. 7, as the third annual Alabama-Florida Peanut Trade Show opens.

Outdoor agricultural exhibits,

equipment demonstrations, a "biodeisel" classroom on wheels" and more will be featured.

For more information on the trade show, contact Teresa Wilson at (334) 792-6482.

## Williams family moves to Geneva

Douglas and Glenda Williams, moved to Geneva, AL to work with the Maple Ave. Church on January 3, 2008. After 17 years with the Griderton Church of Christ, Opp, AL and working at

Williams Signs, Inc. over 20 years each, the Williams went back into full time work with the church. They now reside at 605 W. Camelia Ave., Geneva, AL 36340. Telephone them at 334-684-7777.

## Kinston students participate in Job Shadowing program

On Friday, Feb. 1, the eighth graders from Kinston High School participated in the Job Shadowing program in conjunction with Groundhog Day.

Students accompanied their parent/guardian or other adult to work to see first hand how the skills they learn in school are put into action in the workplace. Through this activity the students can see how characteristics such as manners, courtesy, punctuality, dependability, and teamwork are as important in the workplace as hard work and

technical skills. Participating in the program is a win-win situation for the employers and students involved.

Employers are able to share with the students what will be expected of them in the workplace and the students are able to experience first hand what a day in the "real world" has to offer. Job shadowing is often an eye opening experience for all students.

Kinston High School would like to express appreciation for all of the employers that were

willing to provide this opportunity for the students

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purchase your next vehicle  
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## EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS  
With Fern Cox

"Living to 100 is easier than you might think." That is a quote from an Associated Press story on Monday. The story will probably be in the daily papers later this week. After scanning the article we are still more confused as to why there are often half those listed in the daily newspaper obits who are younger than yours truly?

Presidential candidate Mike Huckabee has as part of his campaign platform "eliminate federal income tax". As an individual it is hard to agree with that idea, in fact we down right like it. Yes, yes, yes... shut down the IRS. But how is the world going to make up the whapping tax deficit? Just giving \$600 rebates for one year is reportedly increasing the federal deficit by billions of dollars! Cutting spending is about the only answer, but where do you cut? If efforts are made to cut welfare and other federal entitlement programs... duck because the fireworks will be instant and severe plus it would have a negative effect on the economy. Gosh, there are already growing demands for more "give me, give me, give me" programs! Cut agriculture programs and the reaction would be bad, plus the same (or worse) effect on the economy as above. Cutting highway construction would save a few billion but would grind transportation to a crawl in just a few years. Cut the American military... Bin Laden (or someone else) would sit in the remains of the White House and issue a video thanking the American people for the warm welcome he received in coming to America. Oh, and don't forget the shambles that cut would make of the U.S. economy. Shut down the federal prisons... just turn the crooks out on society... most of us already own guns. Cut big government (employees etc). Each of the above ideas would wreck the U.S. as we know it and give a sudden surge to unemployment which would spread into every corner of the world's society.

Well, the other answer to increase taxes on "them". Them being anyone but me and my family and friends.

Hey we don't like some of Clinton's social plans either. More government medical payments, etc. will cost someone money and lots of it. What is being promised is "socialized medicine" without using those words.

Obama and McCain also have some ideas we think are dangerous for this country but that is for another day and alas not a one of the four running really care what this writer thinks. They know we must vote for someone... or stay home.

Annual property appraisals in Alabama continues to come under fire. The practice gets more negative reaction when the state legislature is in session... like now. Alabama citizens don't like property taxes, actually Alabama citizens HATE property taxes would be more accurate. Historian Dr. Wayne Flint, in his book "Poor but Proud", tracked this Alabama attitude back to the early days of the textile industry, early coal mining years, etc. Many, many families lost their home because they simply couldn't pay annual property taxes in the \$1.50 range. Needless to say, with their family out of the cold, these folks were bitter. The bitterness was so deep it became an inherited trait which is still dominate today.

In spite of the above Alabama history lesson, which every lawmaker is keenly aware of, don't expect Alabama to go back to "four year" appraisals. It takes more and more money to feed the public's ever increasing demands for services.

## Are you ready for digital television? (Editorial by Congressman Terry Everett)

If you still watch television with an analog set hooked to an outside antenna or "rabbit ears," you'll need to make note of the date February 17, 2009. One year from today all analog signals from the majority of America's television stations will cease and only digital television broadcasting will occur.

If you're not ready for the conversion to digital TV by then, you could be watching snow.

For the vast majority of American TV viewers, the transition from old fashioned analog broadcasting to the new digital format will have little to no impact. It is estimated that less than ten percent of American households still watch television using an analog set connected to an "over-the-air" receiving antenna, such as "rabbit ears" or an outside aerial. Much of the nation is now subscribing to cable or satellite-delivered television, which should not be impacted by the analog to digital transition a year from now.

If you are one of the ten percent of the population still watching your TV programs

CARD  
OF  
THANKS

## WHITE FAMILY

The Family of David and Joni White would like to thank everyone for their acts of kindness shown to us during the recent loss of our home. Thank you for the food, financial contributions, phone calls and prayers.

Also, we thank the members of the Elba Fire Department and Five Star Fire Department that worked so hard to save our home.

In 1996, Congress ordered the

broadcasts without the need of its superior technology and greater efficiency.

Digital technology offers much more to the television viewer, including improved picture and sound quality and the option of "high definition" (HDTV) service. Furthermore, your local TV stations will be able to broadcast more programming via digital sub-channels. Most television stations in Alabama are already broadcasting in digital format, in addition to their analog signals. So you don't have to wait until 2009 to begin enjoying this new technology.

To help prepare for the transition, beginning in 2007 all TV sets imported into America are required to have a digital tuner to enable them to receive digital boxes.

The coupons must be presented at the time of purchase. Major consumer electronics stores are already preparing to sell these converter boxes.

To apply for converter box

coupons and to find out more about this program and participating merchants selling converter boxes, you can visit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) website at [www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov), or call 1-888-388-2009, or 1-877-263-2634 (TTY).

As previously noted, most American TV viewers should not see any service disruption next year since cable and satellite TV services will continue to offer local channel programming in the analog format for their subscribers. However, many of these same companies are encouraging their subscribers to upgrade to digital service for increased performance.

In 1996, Congress ordered the

amount awarded. Contact

ACHE at P.O. Box 302000,

Montgomery, AL 36130-2000

or (334) 242-2273 for an application.

Another ACHE program provides tuition grants for undergraduate study to members of the Alabama National Guard. Guard members can receive up to \$1,000 per year through this program. Contact your local Guard unit for an application.

The fifth program provides four-year, \$20,000 scholarships to 100 high school seniors planning to go to math, special education, general science or English/language arts teachers.

Additional scholarships will be awarded to professionals seeking an alternative degree in teaching. You may download an application from

<http://www.atrp.alabama.gov>

or you may contact a high school guidance counselor or college financial aid office.

For more information about student financial aid and college planning, visit

[www.alstudentaid.com](http://www.alstudentaid.com); write

KHEAA-Alabama, 100 North Union Street, Suite 308,

Montgomery, AL 36104-3762; or call 334-265-9720, toll free

(800) 721-9720.

With an analog set and rabbit ears or outside TV aerial, you can get ready for the switchover to digital TV now. Congress has approved coupons for special converter boxes to enable analog TV sets to receive digital signals.

Every American household can apply for two of these coupons, worth \$40 each, to be used toward the purchase of two eligible converter boxes.

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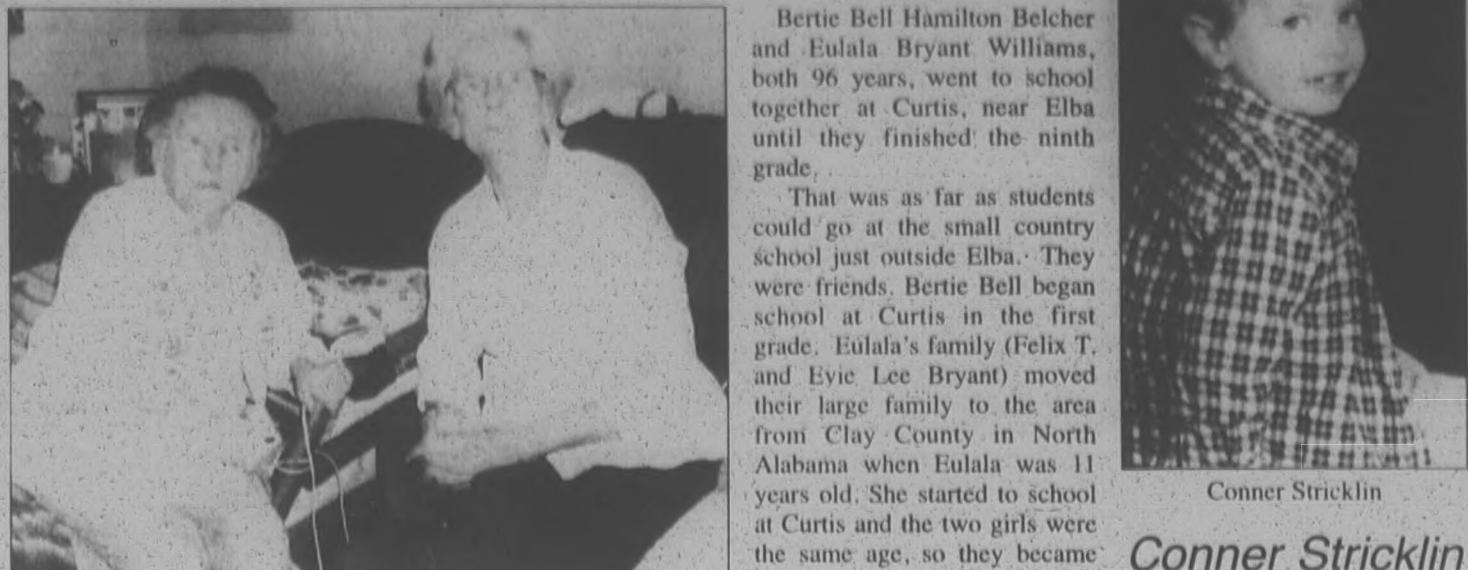
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To apply for converter box

## LIFESTYLES

### Friends meet again after 85 years



96 Year Old Curtis School Classmates reunite after 85 years-Eulalia Williams & Bertie Bell Hamilton Belcher



Conner Stricklin celebrates third birthday

Conner Stricklin celebrated his third birthday on December 16, 2007.

He celebrated his special day with a "Cars" themed party at his MeMe and PawPaw's house with family and friends.

Conner is the son of Lee and Ceretha Stricklin. He is the grandson of Dottie and Perry Stricklin, Martha and Ben Drewery, and Hayward Towles, all of Elba.



Ceretha Stricklin and Lee

Bertie Bell Hamilton Belcher and Eulalia Bryant Williams, both 96 years, went to school together at Curtis, near Elba until they finished the ninth grade.

That was as far as students could go at the small country school just outside Elba. They were friends, Bertie Bell began school at Curtis in the first grade, Eulalia's family (Felix T. and Evie Lee Bryant) moved their large family to the area from Clay County in North Alabama when Eulalia was 11 years old. She started to school at Curtis and the two girls were the same age, so they became friends. Years passed after the girls finished the ninth grade and they never saw each other again. On Wednesday, December 12, Douglas and Glenda Williams, daughter and son-in-law of Eulalia, made the trip from Elba to Flora to let these friends once again see each other. Bertie Bell is in the Flora Health and Rehab Center. One of Eulalia's hospice nurses just happens to be Sue Belcher, daughter-in-law of Bertie Bell. It was an answer to that Sue mentioned her mother-in-law and asked Eulalia if she knew Bertie Bell. Eulalia said, "Bertie Bell Hamilton, I went to school with her at Curtis." Plans were immediately made to get them together. Bertie Bell is the mother of two children: Don Belcher (Sue) and a daughter, Melba (Ray) Davis. Eulalia has three children: Hoyt (Ella), Herschel (Patsy) and Glenda (Douglas) Williams. When asked if they remembered any of their teachers, Bertie Bell immediately named Maude Brumley who taught 8th grade science. Ruth McKenna who took up lots of time with her students, and Max Sowell who later married Grafton Young. When asked if she remembered any of her principals, she said she remembered Mr. Byrd and Mr. Etheridge, a big framed man, that she was scared of him as if he had been a rattle snake. She said he was strict, and when he told you to do something he meant for you to do it. Bertie Bell said she remembered walking to school, and how they all played together at recess. She especially remembered softball and jacks. The boys played ball and marbles. Bertie Bell said she went to school in Elba after finishing at Curtis, and finished the 10th grade there. She then got a job working in Andalusia. Eulalia recalls riding the school bus to Curtis as a child. She said when the bus was full the driver would tell her, "Eulalia, we are full in here. You'll have to hang on the outside." She stood on the running board and held onto the outside of the bus and rode to school that way when there were no seats on the inside. After finishing the ninth grade at Curtis, Eulalia said she stayed home and helped out with their large family and farm, later marrying Grady T. Williams of the Basin community. When asked if they had a boyfriend in school, Bertie Bell smiled as she remembered hers, John Young. She said she liked him because he always had to be the leader, he was nice looking and always had something funny going. Eulalia said she didn't have a boyfriend in school. The friends hugged each other as they were about to part and said "Take care of yourself."

Mrs. Inez Lambert honored on 90th birthday

On January 12, 2008, the new spacious Zion Chapel Senior Center was the setting for the 90th birthday celebration of Mrs. Inez Lambert. The children and grandchildren were hosts and hostesses for the joyous occasion.

Mrs. Inez was her usual sweet, smiling self and enjoyed visiting with the many family members and friends as they

University of Montevallo area students named to honor roll

More than 650 University of Montevallo students were named to the honor roll for the 2007 fall semester. The President's List included the names of 335 students. To make the President's List, a student must earn at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and be a full-time student. Students must earn at least a 3.8 grade point average on a 4.0 scale and be a full-time student.

**Artists and craftsmen are invited to participate in an arts and crafts show at Landmark Park on Saturday, March 15, 2008, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., held in conjunction with the park's annual "Spring Farm Day" celebration. This event will include demonstrations of many rural skills and traditions such as plowing with mules, blacksmithing, sheep shearing, weaving, quilting, and more. Music, concessions and children's activities will also be held.**

Kaleb is the son of Sara and Kent Mitchell and the little brother of Kyle. He is the grandson of Catherine Miller and Pamela Mitchell, all of Elba, and John Mitchell of Columbiana, Ala. He is the great-grandson of Elba and MC Lawrence of Elba and Olee Mitchell of Columbiana.

Work may be in any medium, but must be the original work and design of the artist. Purchased, manufactured or kit items will not be allowed. Booth rentals, both inside and outside are available.

Admission to "Spring Farm Day" is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors, \$4 for children, and free for park members. Landmark Park is located at US Hwy 431, three miles north of Dothan's Ross Clark Circle. For more information, call 334-794-3452.

**There will be a general membership meeting of the MacHis Lower Creek Indian tribe on February 24th**

The meeting will begin at 2:00 p.m. at the MacHis Lower Creek Indian tribe of Alabama tribal church. The church is located at 2778 Geneva Road, Kinston, Ala.

On the agenda are: Scholarships, Documentation Project, Pow Wow, Low Income Home Energy Program

For more information contact Chief James Wright or Vice Chairman Nancy Carney

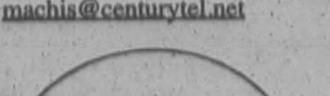
At MacHis Lower Creek Indian tribe of Alabama, Post Office Box 7, New Carrollton, Alabama 36351 - telephone: (334) 894-0108 or email machis@centurytel.net

**Thomas Sexton and Nokie Wright And their families Cordially invite you to attend a Reception honoring the 70th birthday celebration Of their Mother Sarah Sexton Gray Sunday afternoon, February 24, 2008 2:30 p.m. Family Life Center Woodland Grove Baptist Church**

Your visit and sharing of memories Will be a most appreciated gift.

**Shop Bradley's for All your Floral and Gift Needs!! Remember Valentine's Day**

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Clyde & Sadie

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WALKING! See us

for AFFORDABLE

AUTO INSURANCE!

THE WALK DID ME GOOD.

ELBA DELIVERY

TABERNACLE

Allen Richards, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Service.....6:30 p.m.

CHESHTON GROVE METHODIST

Rev. Martha Baster

Church Service.....9:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sunday

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.

ELBA 1st BAPTIST CHURCH

Travis Johnson-Interim

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Even. Meeting.....7:00 p.m.

ELBA 1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Wesley D. A. and Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.

ELBA UNITED METHODIST

Church - Stanley Carter, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Service.....6:30 p.m.

ELBA ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Lavelle Martin, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.

Even. Service.....6:00 p.m.

Wed. Prayer Meeting.....7:00 p.m.

GOD'S COVENANT COMMUNITY

Mar. Gray, Pastor

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.

Fellowship.....12:00 noon

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.

2nd & 4th Sundays

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.

ELBA 1st BAPTIST CHURCH

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ELBA 1st BAPTIST CHURCH

Sgt. Jones-Pastor

Sunday School.....9:45 a.m.

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Outdoor agricultural exhibits, equipment demonstrations, a "biodeisel classroom on wheels" and more will be featured.

For more information on the trade show, contact Teresa Wilson at (334) 792-6482.

## Did You know the Elba Clipper once was printed twice-a-week?

Researched by Sheila (Hornby) Felix

THE ELBA CLIPPER July 13, 1905

THE TWICE-A-WEEK CLIPPER. Beginning with this issue THE CLIPPER goes to its readers as a twice a week paper, the first issue being published on Tuesday and the second on Friday. This is to fill no longer want, but is merely an incident in the development of this section more to the rural free delivery system than to any other one thing is due this innovation. The advantages and disadvantages of the step have been carefully weighed. And we are convinced that the gratification we may get through pleasing our patrons far outweighs the additional expense. Much of the time there will be no more reading matter in the two issues than would have appeared in one of the weekly issues. But it will reach the readers while it is fresh. Incidentally, it may be stated that the price of the paper will remain the same as heretofore: \$1.00 per year, 50 cents for six months, 25 cents for three months. We are always glad to have non-subscribers borrow and read THE CLIPPER; sooner or later they become subscribers. Now it will be a little more inconvenient to borrow a paper twice each week, when you are tired of your neighbor gets tired of lending the paper to you, remember we still have room for a few hundred more subscribers, and there are a number of good ways to send money by mail to THE CLIPPER; one of the best is through your mail carrier or postmaster, who is authorized to act as our agent.

We have no time to waste with monkeying; our section and town are growing; every body ought to be at work doing his part. Put off politics, loafing, grumbling, and telling how things ought to be till a more convenient season, if this convenient season don't come, it won't matter.

Mr. & Mrs. W.A. Taylor of West Elba have a large new boy at their home.

Street Superintendent George Collier is doing some good work. Some of us think that what is being done ought to be left undone and other work done; THE CLIPPER thinks it all needs doing.

Mr. B.H. Mixon of Beat 9 was in town yesterday and favored some of his friends with some of the finest peaches ever seen in this section.

County court wound up its biggest jury term Saturday. The fines were large, or when not large additional time at hard labor helped out the fine and forfeiture fund. Sentences to hard labor were as follows:

John Thomas, col., for stealing an axe was fined \$25.00 and costs plus two months additional hard labor; he went to the

## 9-1-1 telephone service has been in existence forty years

Forty years ago this month the 9-1-1 telephone service began operation with the first ever call from Haleyville, Ala. This week 911 centers throughout Alabama will remember the call by calling attention to the improvements that have been made throughout Alabama in the last 40 years.

Today, some 87 districts answer emergency calls from Alabama citizens, providing a life-saving link between those in need and the public safety professionals who stand ready 24 hours a day.

"The 9-1-1 telephone is the birthplace of 911 emergency calling in the United States," said Donna Smith, president of the Alabama Association of 911 Districts and director of the Chambers County 9-1-1 and New Brockton, as well as the unincorporated areas of the County.

The activities of the 911 districts are guided - and directed - by a governing board, in accordance with state law. In Coffee County, the Board consists of a group of private citizens including David Bandstra, R.P. Flowers, Glen Gatlin, Robert Hooks, Robert Shaffer, Gloria T. Webb, with Charles L. Webb as Board Chairman. The County Coordinator is Marvin McInnis.

The district inside the city limits is governed by the City Council (appointed to serve as a separate board, apart from their Council duties), with Mayor Bowell serving as an ex-officio member. The 911 operations function under Police Chief T.D. Jones; the Enterprise 911 consultant to the city is Charles L. Webb from the County Board.

The activities for the network are provided by the 911 operations, who are responsible for getting 911 operations, to include equipment, telephone circuitry, and a share of police

dispatcher salaries, is from a service fee on telephone bills.

The Coffee County/Enterprise Boards are proud of the fact that neither have ever asked for any funding from City and/or County general funds.

On Feb. 16, 1958, the first 9-1-1 emergency system in the United States was deemed operational in a police station in Haleyville, Ala. Then Alabama Speaker of the House Rankin Fite made the first call, which was answered by then Congressman Tom Bevill.

Here in Coffee County, we have 911 districts, one encompassing the area within the City Limits of Enterprise, and the other including all of Elba, Kinston, and New Brockton, as well as the unincorporated areas of the County.

Coffee County and the Enterprise 911 answering points have been "Phase II Compliant" since February of 2005. Phase II technology allows 911 dispatchers answering cellular/wireless telephones to determine the location of the caller (on a computerized map), even if the caller cannot talk or do not know their location. It is important to note that location feature only functions properly if the selected wireless telephone company utilizes the proper state-of-the-art technology. Not all wireless companies have the proper technology.

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The activities for the network are provided by the 911 operations, who are responsible for getting 911 operations, to include equipment, telephone circuitry, and a share of police

(SB220) during the 2008 regular legislative session.

"It is important that we continue to improve and operate as efficiently as possible," Smith concluded. "We have come a long way in the past 40 years, but the citizens still depend on that voice on the other side of the telephone."

### Troy Theater Department presents The Misanthrope

The Troy University Theatre Department will present "The Misanthrope" by Jean Baptiste Poquelin Molier on February 14, 15, 16, and 18 at 7:30 p.m. in the Trojan Center Theatre.

The theater department is bringing in a guest director for this production, Siona Macleod, and will have a different kind of setting than most productions, one where the actors will be surrounded by the audience.

Green describes the production as "an intimate setting with a modern day twist."

Tickets are on sale at the Trojan Center Box Office. They can be purchased at the door depending on the event.

To reserve tickets, call the Trojan Center Box Office at (334) 670-3293.

Additional, a statewide study commission is looking for additional ways to enhance the operation of the local districts, including the establishment of a statewide communication network that would allow districts to handle calls for each other in times of extreme emergency.

The authorization for the network is included in legislation sponsored by Rep. Mike Curtis (HB 253) and Sen. Ted Little

for funding 911 operations.

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"This is a huge deal," Windham said.

In their report, Windham said Coffee County ranked #5 in the Top 10 counties for the "Best Places to Live in Rural America." Regionally, Coffee County ranked #3 in the southeast.

Windham said the magazine has done this feature for the past four years. In making the determination, he said they look at crime, education, weather, cost of living, etc.

Coffee County was the only Alabama county to make the overall "Top 10" list.

"It just validates what we've known all along," said Windham. "It's (Coffee County) a pretty good place to live."

He said the county's response to last year's tornado in Enterprise and the massive balance of agriculture and urban growth are the two things that really put Coffee County in the Top 10.

"You'd have to go a long way to find another county with this balance (agriculture and urban growth)," said Windham.

Also during Monday's meeting, county EMA director John Tallas and Sheriff Dave Sutton,

## Health Fair Scholarship available

A \$1,000 Enterprise Community Health Fair Scholarship, sponsored by Medical Center Enterprise, Center Home Healthcare, and the E.L. Gibson Foundation, will be awarded for the 2008 summer semester.

Enterprise-Ozark Community College hosts the annual health fair which provides invaluable information to help community residents with early detection of potential health problems as well as preventative personal health care. The fair will be held on the Enterprise Campus in Lolley Hall's Gymnasium on Saturday, February 23, 8:00 a.m.-noon.

The scholarship application

## NOTICE FOR REPUBLICAN COUNTY OFFICE HOLDERS AND PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

The Coffee County Republican Committee is now qualifying candidates for county offices. Current office holders up for re-election, or someone desiring to run for office on the Republican ticket, should contact the Coffee County Republican Committee chairman, Don Weaver, at 334-393-5980 or 334-477-3778. The qualifying deadline is midnight on April the 4th.

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Budgets were also lower than budgeted in several departments, administrative, recreation, fire department and debt retirement, all came in under budget for the quarter.

Monthly bills totaling \$87,184.40 were approved for payment. Gasoline continues to be a major and growing expense with a \$12,627.76 price tag this month. There was also a monthly transfer of tax funds to the Elba School System. These earmarked funds totaled \$12,768.36 for the month of January. The total bills included

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# SCHOOLS



## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Erica Daniels &  
Kelly Corder

Elba elementary and high school both preparing for SACS review process

Submitted by Lynn Baker

Elba City Schools is currently participating in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation process.

Qualifying Assurance Review teams are scheduled to visit both the elementary and high school campuses Feb. 20 and 21. The review team will study the data collected by each school in order to determine the school's adherence to advanced quality standards. Faculty, staff, students and community stakeholders have spent much time in meaningful discussion, observation and interaction around the school's demonstration of the standards in practice. Standards

studied include improvement in student performance and school effectiveness as well as implementing research-based curriculum and instructional methods that facilitate achievement for all students.

Every effort has been made to ensure the resources and services are in place and available to support the school's vision and purpose and to safeguard achievement for all students. Policies and procedures have been established, communicated, implemented and reviewed to provide for the effective operation of the schools.

This process is instrumental in Elba City Schools' effort to ensure that excellence remains at the forefront of all aspects of instruction and student learning.



### Annual Band Dance held at EHS

by Erica Daniels

On Saturday, Feb. 2, the annual Band Dance was held at Elba High School. This year's theme was "Enchanted Night."

The seniors and their dates walked out through the traditional leadout. It was a great success for those who attended. Students had a number of opinions on the dance.

Brittany Davis said, "It was fun but could have been better." Karen Huckabaa replied, "It was alright but nicely decorated." Megan Sullivan added, "I enjoyed the dance, and the decorations were very pretty."

A big thank you is extended to the Band Boosters for the beautifully decorated dance.

### Elba falls to Opp on the court

by Brittany Davis

On Friday, Feb. 1, the Opp Bobcats traveled to Tiger Country to battle the Elba Tigers in basketball. All three Tiger teams fought hard but did not prevail.

At the end of the B-team boys' game, the Opp Bobcats finished with a score of 8 points, whereas the Elba Tigers finished with a score of 21. The high scorer for the B-team boys' game was Sandarius Reed, #5, with a total of 4 points. The B-team boys tried to keep it close, but the Bobcats were too tough.

The second game of the night featured the Elba Lady Tigers and the Opp Lady Bobcats. The Lady Tigers scored their first points during the second quarter of the game.

When the buzzer finally rang at the end of the game, the Elba Lady Tigers finished with a score of 25, and the Opp Bobcats finished with a score of 47. Keke Oliver, #42, was the high scorer of the night, with a total of 13 points. The entire game seemed like a cakewalk with the Bobcats becoming the winner.

During the last game of the night, the Opp Bobcats defeated the Tigers once again. The Elba Varsity boys ended the night with a score of 31, and the Opp Varsity boys ended the night with a score of 43.

The high scorer for the Elba Varsity boys was Keenan Phillips, #11, with a total of 8 points. The team stayed in the game, but sadly, at the end they ended their regular season with a loss.

Maisie Thomas spoke about the key to achievement, which requires daily accomplishments that build up from small to ever-increasing effort, until at last one can say, "The key to achievement is mine."

Next, Cordel Hooks spoke about the key of character, a

### Annual Miss Elba pageants held at Elba High School

by Kelly Corder

On Saturday, Jan. 26, the Elba High School Journalism staff hosted the annual Miss Elba Pageant.

The pageant is held every year to help raise money to fund the yearbook. This year's theme was "Queens in Disguise" and 54 contestants, grades K through 12th, participated.

The Miss Elba competition involved 17 young ladies in grades 10th-12th. LeAnna Henderson was crowned Miss Elba, while Taylor Crael was named 1st runner-up and Ashley Bailey was named 2nd runner-up. Karen Jackson was named Miss Congeniality.

This year, the Elba staff added a new group to the pageant—calendar girls. These girls included: Miss January—Marita Lavone; Miss February—Keri Jones; Miss March—Chessie Cross; Miss April—Ashley Carpenter; Miss May—Kayla Rials; Miss June—Emily Miller; Miss July—Maise Thomas; Miss August—Brittany Whitehead; Miss September—Karen Huckabee; Miss October—Meagan Anderson; Miss November—Ashley Bailey; and Miss December—Taylor Crael.

The Elba staff congratulates all winners and thanks everyone who attended and made this a great success.

Junior Miss Elba competition involved several young ladies in grades K-3rd. The winner of this category was Peyton Chandler. 1st runner-up was Kayla Seay, and 2nd runner-up was Chanlyn Free.

During the first intermission, Youshe Terry and Alexis Hocutt, known as "God's Chosen Ones" performed a religious mime to "My Hands."

The Little Miss Elba competition involved 15 young ladies in grades 4th-6th. The winner in this category was Caitlyn Bradshaw. Elizabeth English was named 1st runner-up, and Cammie McCollough was named 2nd runner-up.

The Junior Miss Elba competition involved nine young ladies in grades 7th-9th. The winner of this category was Aaliyah Horstead, 1st runner up was Meagan Conncannon, 2nd runner up was Brinley Williams and Miss Congeniality was Tiffany Bradshaw.

During the final intermission, senior Deneesha Jordan sang a moving solo, "Hero."

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This year, the Elba staff added a new group to the pageant—calendar girls. These girls included: Miss January—Marita Lavone; Miss February—Keri Jones; Miss March—Chessie Cross; Miss April—Ashley Carpenter; Miss May—Kayla Rials; Miss June—Emily Miller; Miss July—Maise Thomas; Miss August—Brittany Whitehead; Miss September—Karen Huckabee; Miss October—Meagan Anderson; Miss November—Ashley Bailey; and Miss December—Taylor Crael.

The Elba staff congratulates all winners and thanks everyone who attended and made this a great success.

Junior Miss Elba competition involved several young ladies in grades K-3rd. The winner of this category was Peyton Chandler. 1st runner-up was Kayla Seay, and 2nd runner-up was Chanlyn Free.

During the first intermission, Youshe Terry and Alexis Hocutt, known as "God's Chosen Ones" performed a religious mime to "My Hands."

The Little Miss Elba competition involved 15 young ladies in grades 4th-6th. The winner in this category was Caitlyn Bradshaw. Elizabeth English was named 1st runner-up, and Cammie McCollough was named 2nd runner-up.

The Junior Miss Elba competition involved nine young ladies in grades 7th-9th. The winner of this category was Aaliyah Horstead, 1st runner up was Meagan Conncannon, 2nd runner up was Brinley Williams and Miss Congeniality was Tiffany Bradshaw.

During the final intermission, senior Deneesha Jordan sang a moving solo, "Hero."

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Junior Miss Elba competition involved several

# CLASSIFIEDS

## The Elba Clipper

417 W. Buford St. • P.O. Box 677  
Elba, AL 36323-0257

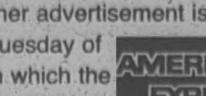
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# SPORTS

Views from...

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Now that school is back in at Troy it seems like one of the girls calls home about every night for some help in writing a paper or to help do research on the computer. I love to write and usually provide a little help with the English papers, but am careful because I know what the teachers liked back in the early seventies has certainly changed over the years. I guess our help may have done a little good last semester since both girls did great. However, if their grades fall this semester I will refuse to take the blame.

### For what it is worth....

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers were ousted in the opening round of the area tournament last week and closed the season with a final record of 10-15. The Tigers had a mid-season surge that pushed their win total to double digits, but won only once in their final twelve games and in the area tournament were led in scoring by a freshman that had been moved up from the junior varsity. The Tigers did have a young team this season and had some pretty good players on the JV. So, maybe next season they will come together as a team and pay some of their opponents back for the whippings they suffered late in the season.

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers lost its tournament opener to end the season with a 7-15 record, but unlike the boys team fought hard in post-season action and actually led Straughn for three quarters before running out of gas. The Lady Tigers had an eighth-grade point guard leading the way and several other youngsters that will be back next season, and I look for the Elba girls to make big strides and battle hard in their next area as they compete for an area crown. The girls program has proven in years past it can be a winner, and should be again real soon.

\*\*\* The season came to an end last week on the boys side for Zion Chapel, but New Brockton, Brantley and Kinston all wrapped up spots in this week's sub-region round, which means all three teams are just one win away from making a trip to the region tournament. The Rebels from up at Zion Chapel suffered through their third straight winless season and saw their losing streak reach in the seven-game mark. They have a young coach that will put in the hours to turn things around, and I look for the streak to end early next season. New Brockton won for the 17th time in 15 games during the opening round of the area tournament and could be a sleeper to make a trip to region, while Kinston can be a dangerous team to play when its shots are falling, and Brantley has tradition on its side and always believes it can beat any team on any given night. Over on the girls' side, Brantley reached the 29-man plateau last week in winning the area championship, and definitely has a team no one wants to run into in post-season play. The Lady Bulldogs have been on a roll throughout the season and appear primed for a return trip to Troy to compete in the Southeast Region. Zion Chapel, New Brockton and Kinston all saw their seasons end last week in area tournament play, and all three county teams struggled for much of the season. The Lady Gamecocks won only once, while the Lady Rebels posted three wins and the Lady Bulldogs won six times. A team's dedication and work ethic is not always found in its record, and all three teams deserve credit for the effort they gave throughout the season.

\*\*\* The college recruiting season ended last week with national signing day and for the Alabama fans it was a day to beam with pride and dream about the years to come. The Crimson Tide signed the #1 recruiting class in the nation according to most experts, and if Coach Saban can add a couple of more top quality classes in years to come for the Tide to rise and move back among the elite teams in the nation. Auburn lost four of its most highly regarded verbal commitments on signing day and took a hit although the Tigers did have a top twenty class. My Auburn buddy said the Tiger fans have to just forget about this year's recruiting woes and hope that the coaches will regroup and hit the roads next season to make certain it doesn't happen again. Auburn will always have a solid recruiting class, but with Saban at Alabama, Richt at Georgia, Meyer at Florida, Nutt at Ole Miss, Patrino at Arkansas and Croom at Mississippi State, recruiting will never be easy again for any teams in the conference.

\*\*\* In closing... I went up to Eufaula Friday night to referee a high school basketball game and after the game ran into Bailey Brunson. Bailey is now a policeman at Eufaula, and even though the family behaved well and never gave the game officials any problems, it was nice to know we had an 'ole Elba boy there to keep us safe.

### HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL & SOFTBALL SEASON BEGINS NEXT WEEK... Look for schedules and previews next week

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DIMETRIO TYSON (center) accepts congratulations from Elba Tiger head football coach Scott Rials after signing a college football scholarship with Jacksonville State University. Pictured at the signing are (seated, l-r) Coach Rials, Tyson, his mother Bridget Tyson Casey, his father Doug Martin, Jr. (standing, l-r) Elba High principal Shane Martin, Martin's mother Betsy Martin and brother Griffin Martin. (Photo by Mike Capps)

### Elba Tiger trio sign college scholarships

The Elba Tiger football program continued its recent history of sending student-athletes on to the collegiate ranks last week as three members of the 2007 Tigers signed college football scholarships.

The trio signed in ceremonies on Wednesday morning at the Media Center at Elba High School, and was joined at the event by coaches, school officials, family members and friends.

Dimetrio Tyson, a 6-2, 255-pound, defensive-end, signed with Jacksonville State University.

The Tiger standout recorded 77 tackles and 4 quarterback sacks during his senior season.

"The coaching staff at Hardin made me feel at home and really showed how it cares for its athletes," said McCormick, who was also recruited by West Alabama and the University of North Alabama. "I know life can be hard for a lineman especially at the college level. However, I feel Hardin will give me the chance to be a part of the program and that is all I can ask for."

"These three young men have played a huge role in the success of our football program over the past three years and I am convinced they will all continue to excel in college," said Elba's Coach Scott Rials. "The young men worked hard in the off-season to young men in our program that they are willing to work hard and dedicate themselves to excellence they can also move on and play college football."

"I decided to attend Harding because of the coaching staff," said the coach of the coaching staff.

### Youth baseball and softball registration underway in Elba

The Elba Department of Parks & Recreation will conduct registration for youth baseball and softball from Monday, February 11 through Friday, February 22. Registration fees are \$25 per child with a \$50 maximum fee for families with more than two registrants, and registration forms will be passed out at the Elba Elementary School, Elba High School and Men's softball tourney in Enterprise

all area daycares.

Leagues in baseball include T-Ball (ages 3-5), Coach-Pitch Baseball (ages 6-8), Dixie Minor Baseball (ages 9-10), Dixie Youth Baseball (ages 11-12), Dixie Boys Baseball (ages 13-14), Dixie Pre-Majors Baseball (ages 15-16) and Dixie Majors Baseball (ages 17-19).

Leagues in softball include T-Ball (ages 3-5), Coach-Pitch

baseballs will be held in Elba at Hawkins-Williams Park, while baseball and softball games in other leagues will play in Elba and on the road and compete against New Brockton, Zion Chapel, Kinston, Brantley and Men's softball tourney in Enterprise

balls. A 3-5 home-run rule will be in effect and the deadline to enter is Feb. 21 at 12:00 (noon). For more information contact Nancy at 598-4322 or 763-0327.

The Recreation Department is now seeking coaches for all teams in all leagues. It is hoped

that coaches will be in place prior to the end of the registration period to allow for a quick player selection process.

For more information or for a registration form contact the Recreation Department at 897-6833.

Also, each child's birth certificate should accompany the registration form when turned in unless one is already on file. Correct jersey size is also requested on the registration form.

All T-Ball and Coach-Pitch

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The Recreation Department is

## Coffee County Board of Education holds routine meeting

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Board of Education held a brief but productive meeting Thursday evening, Feb. 7, as Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram opened the meeting with good news.

Dr. Ingram said the board has "cause to celebrate" as she announced all bonded indebtedness has been paid off. She said this mostly was from 1990 renovations.

Board vice chairman Danny Jernigan commanded those, especially Dr. Ingram, that have worked so hard to help get the school system physically sound to allow for such an announcement.

Board members approved an out-of-state travel request from instructor Dennis Busby to take a group of seniors from Kinston High School to a welding competition in Florida later this month.

Also during the meeting, Dr. Ingram presented a "draft" copy of the proposed school calendar for the 2008-09 school term. She said a copy of the draft has been posted on the school system's website and sent to the schools. She said she certainly will accept any comments regarding the calendar before the board approves it during an upcoming meeting.

Dr. Ingram did not the existence of a bill in the Legislature that it passed with play havoc with the calendar. According to Dr. Ingram, if the bill had passed would not allow schools to begin until around Aug. 18 and the school year would have to be complete around May 22nd.

Dr. Ingram suggested board

members contact local legislators to express their displeasure in the bill and ask them to vote against it.

"Our calendar works for our community," she said.

Dr. Ingram said the proposed bill would force the school system to shorten several breaks currently included in the school calendar.

Jernigan added that another thing the proposed bill will do is take control away from the local level in regards to setting the school calendar. He said he believes control of the school calendar should remain at the local level.

The proposed 2008-09 calendar presented by Dr. Ingram has students' first day of school set for Wednesday, Aug. 6, while their last day will be Thursday, May 28, 2009.

Board members approved several personnel matters recommended by Dr. Ingram during last Thursday evening's meeting. These matters included:

• Approve catastrophic leave for Tracy Whittaker, library media specialist at New Brockton Elementary School

• Accept the resignation of Shasta Arnett as cheerleader sponsor at Zion Chapel School

• Employ Andrea Maness as cheerleader sponsor at Zion Chapel School

• Approve catastrophic leave for Renee Flowers, lunchroom worker at New Brockton

• Approve the resignation of Bertha Thomas, LPN at New Brockton Elementary School

• Employ Linda Black as LPN at New Brockton Elementary School

• Employ Wendy Hardy as part-time custodian at Zion Chapel School

The next regular scheduled meeting for the Coffee County Board of Education will be Thursday, March 6.

## Regional peanut production meetings underway

The 2008 Alabama Regional Peanut production meetings, which began Jan. 1, will continue with more meetings scheduled throughout the state's peanut-producing areas.

Scheduled speakers include: Randy Griggs of the Alabama Peanut Producers Association on the farm bill and industry issues; Marshall Lamb and Wilson Faircloth of the National Peanut Research Laboratory on marketing and economics; and Kris Balkcom, Austin Hagan and Ron Weeks of Auburn University's Wiregrass Research and Extension Center on production updates and issues.

Upcoming meetings include:

Feb. 25, 6 p.m., at the New Brockton Farm Center Community Room; Feb. 26, 6 p.m., in the Harrison Room of the Troy University campus in Dothan; and Feb. 28, 6 p.m., at the Pike County Economic Development Office on Highway 231 in Troy. A meal will be served at each of the meetings.

The meetings offer preplanning tips and overviews of current

issues related to the peanut industry, including production practices, variety recommendations and marketing update.

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